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Review Article

Investigating Strategies for Writing and Publishing a Scientific Article in an International Journal

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ABSTRACT

Writing and publishing scientific papers is part of assessment and achievement at universities. Composing an organized and clear article is essential for the publicity of instructors and students at educational institutions. Many English as Foreign Language learners read informative and well-structured articles to develop their academic reading and writing skills in the English language. Scientific journals assist researchers in depicting their contributions through publicizing research papers. The study aims to explore strategies for writing scientific articles for high-profile journals and it investigates the strategies of writing introduction, method, and discussion components of articles for non-native writers. This research study was conducted through a systematic review design. The researchers reviewed, evaluated, and synthesized the targeted articles. The study found conducting writing and research methodology workshops assist non-English speaking country research to write for reputed journals. Also, this paper finds the merit of publishing in indexed journals; as well as the drawback of publishing papers in predatory journals. Writing is a tough process for native and non-native English speakers; however, perseverance, attending academic writing courses, and critical review of papers make the skill enjoyable for novice writers. Avoiding publishing in predatory journals is compulsory because it destroys the reputation of the researcher. Rejection is not the last stage of publication, review the guidelines again and again to prepare the article for the targeted journal.

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Introduction

Conducting research is pivotal for examining hypotheses and generating new knowledge. It is obvious to expert researchers that research is a systematic process and it requires a long-time effort and struggles. Fazed (2013) mentioned that writing and publishing scientific papers require enough time, knowledge, and skills in writing, research methods, and information about the criteria of targeted international journals. Also, writing for the reputed journal is a complicated activity but a writer can publish articles in the reputed journal through perseverance and hard work (Baron, 2012). There are some other crucial factors that promote research quality and acceptance rate of articles in journals such as effective writing skills and applying guidelines of specified high-impact journals. Writing and publishing research articles in international journals are challenging tasks for many non-native speakers of English. Writing a manuscript in the English language and publishing it in a standard journal is a sophisticated task for researchers due to many criteria of publications (Asif, Tajuddin, & Khan, 2020). Gasparyan, Ayvazyan, and Kitas (2013) stated that bibliographic databases play crucial roles in finding reliable resources in the era of the technological revolution. Some of the novice researchers have limited insights and skills in English writing. Therefore, their papers are not published in reputed journals. Publishing in high-impact journals is important for the publicity of writers. There are many bibliographic databases such as Web of Science, Current Contents Connect, PubMed, Hinari, Scopus indexed research journals which make it easy for readers and researchers to tasks during the literature review process. Journals which are meet the criteria of databases are called standard or indexed journals Gasparyan, Ayvazyan, and Kitas (2013). Baron (2012)

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stated that publications in highly indexed English language journals are important for the reputation of the author and their college. The purpose of this study is to figure out the ways for writing and publishing articles in high-indexed journals. The findings help non-native English speakers to write standard articles for English language publishing journals. Moreover, to investigate characteristics of articles that are published in high-impact and genuine English journals.

Many instructors perform research in various fields and they are searching for international journals. However, limited information about standard journals in the English language deterred them from researching and publishing this article assisted them in sharing findings with readers. According to Fazed (2013), the purpose of conducting research is to share obtained notions with an audience with the help of publishing articles in journals.

Objectives

To explore strategies for writing various elements of a research paper.

To investigate the purpose of writing different components of an article.

To realize the criteria of a highly indexed journal.

To identify traits of predatory journals.

Research Questions

The following research questions will be asked:

According to the relevant literature and opinions of experts, what are the procedures for writing and publishing scientific articles in international journals?

What are some strategies that help non-native English speakers to compose articles for standard journals?

Significance of Research

English is the language of education, technology, and publication around the world and non-native writers need to develop academic writing skills. This paper helps readers to recognize the relationships between good articles and standard journals. Lecturers, teachers, and graduate students require publication. They must know the research paper writing challenges. This study emphasizes all the points that non-native writers need during writing and publishing for reputed journals.

Literature Review

English language is an international language and it is the language of education around the world. Besides, English is the language of publishing articles so native and non-native English speakers are required to master academic writing skills before attempting to publish articles in high-profile journals. The exploratory research was performed to identify scientific paper writing skills. The literature review section of the article is divided into three sub-sections. The first sub-section deals with all those ideas and reporting which discuss writing skills. The second section discusses publishing articles in the reputed journal. Finally, there are some notions about predatory journals.

Scientific Paper Writing Skills

Writing is tough for EFL students but it is a way for constructing knowledge. Mehr (2017), “Writing can be regarded as a main skill in EFL since it needs thinking. It is considered not only as a means of communication but as a process of construction of knowledge” (p.158). On the other hand, Inmoratus (2017) revealed that the writing process makes the complexity of writing paragraphs and essays to non-native English writers. The writing process consists of five stages planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. Similarly, the Process approach of writing facilitates the teaching and learning process of writing easier for students in the EFL context. In the process approach, the instructor works as a mentor and the students perform the targeted task in each step of the writing process (Mehr, 2017). According to Mulyatiningsih and Sugiyono (2020), lecturers can make research paper writing easy by provoking students’ ideas regarding the selection of titles for articles.

According to Inmoratus (2017), English as a Foreign language learners have to consider two important goals for becoming a good writer. First, they should work on mastering language and writing skills which are paraphrasing, synthesizing, pattern recognition, accuracy, and fluency. Secondly, the EFL writer improved the usage of the writing process carefully and identified each stage of writing process-related criteria. A scientific journal article is a factual piece of information and the writer of a manuscript should master close reading, analyzing, summarizing, refereeing, comparing, persuading, and critical thinking skills (Inmoratus, 2017). According to Mehr (2017), feedback and creativity are important for mastering writing skills and the writer who allocates time for writing gets merit from writing.

According to Praveen, et al. (2022), Variation in writing style and format for manuscripts complicate the process of writing and publishing articles and these points do not let the researchers concentrate on content, research method, and findings According to Nagao (2022), in descriptive writing, the author summarizes ideas and supportive the main ideas with facts and examples.

Therefore, the method and result sections must have these attributes. Knowing various types of essays and some relevant skills such as summarizing and synthesizing are important for non-native writers. Since writing helps teachers and students build knowledge, so they should know about the writing styles and guidelines of some journals.

Strategies for avoiding dishonest journal

There are many predatory journals that publish articles without considering research ethics so journal writers should be cautious of certain journals. According to Kurt (2018), predatory journals are low-standard journals that accept and publish articles within a limited period. They do not consider the honesty and reliability of the article as well as they work for money. In the same vein, Predatory journals attract the researchers' attention through emails and they do not provide any service for them. Articles that are published in predatory journal are not acceptable to many universities and publishing in predatory journals destroy the writers' prestigious (Richtig et al., 2018).

Kurt (2018) reported that researchers conducting research in developing countries do not have enough information about the research methodology. The researchers prefer all the journals that are acceptable to their institutions. According to Richtig et.al (2018), predatory journals aim to receive money without providing service. The journal editorial members are fake and they are not available to provide constructive feedback. Therefore, they publish articles in a very short period. Many predatory journals use the title of highly indexed journals because, with the help of this activity, they can mislead novice researchers easily. Developing countries' researchers believe that Western journals do not publish their articles so predatory journals fulfill the needs of writers (Kurt, 2018).

The editorial committee members looking for high-standard English and their expectations are very high. Kurt (2018) reported that many predatory journals are situated in Asia, Africa, Middle East. Developed countries and institutions should support developing countries' researchers and institutions to overcome these challenges. The editorial committee looks for the article contribution in the current time and it is one of the best criteria for the selection of articles for Web of Science Indexed Journals (Paul, et al.,2023). Praveen, Harsha, Naidu, and Dharani (2022) mentioned that every journal has its guidelines which makes the process of submitting and publishing difficult for researchers. There should be harmony between various journal guidelines because it makes the process of reviewing the article after rejection easy. The researchers can find another journal for their article (Praveen et.al., 2022).

Chang and Su (2022) discussed that researchers who live in non-English-speaking countries are concerned about language and publication type. Variation among disciplines also paves the ground for changing the guidelines of journals and standardization of language. Many social science researchers publish their findings in the local language. In non-English speaking countries publishing articles in the language is mandatory for researchers but writing in the English language is not easy for them.Sharma and Ogle (2022) said that asking experts to share the list of journals help the novice researcher to publish the article easily because finding relevant journal is not an easy task. Writing and publishing an article in a standard journal requires time and consideration. Garcia-Costa, Forte, Lòpez-Iñesta, Squazzoni, and Grimaldo (2022) found that peer review enhances the quality of the paper. Reviewers double-check the method, analysis, and results sections which are the most important parts of scientific papers. The quantitative articles have a higher rate of rejection than qualitative which were conducted by novice researchers.

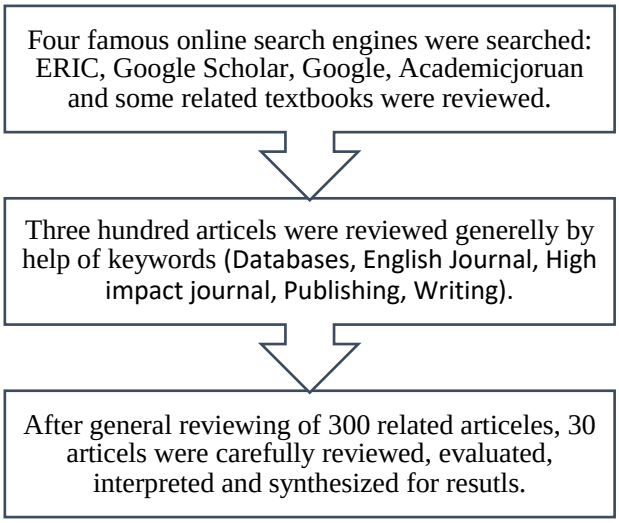
Materials and Methods

This exploratory research was conducted through a systematic review design. It revealed the research participants' attitudes, behaviors, and opinions which are stated in the literature review concerning writing for international journals and publishing in English language journals. The researchers reviewed, evaluated, and synthesized the targeted articles based on the keywords (Writing, Publishing, English Journal, High impact journal, Databases) which were published within the years 2010 to 2023 in high-indexed journals. The articles were collected from the best databases (Google Scholar, ERIC, Elsevier, and so forth)

Sampling Method: Purposive sampling was utilized in this study. We collected updated articles and papers that meet the current study's purposes. Samples were assembled systematically and analyzed the data thematically after careful note-taking, evaluating, and interpreting processes.

Sample Size: We have chosen 300 articles in the first attempts. These articles were collected based on keywords. Secondly, we reviewed the abstract of 300 articles and selected only 150 articles that were near to my research topic. Ultimately, the reviewers reviewed 150 articles carefully and selected 30 articles for annotated bibliography. The samples were collected through purposive sampling.

Data collection tools: The articles were collected from the best databases (Google Scholar, ERIC, Elsevier, and so forth).


Four famous online search engines were searched: ERIC, Google Scholar, Google, Academicjoruan and some related textbooks were reviewed.
Three hundred articels were reviewed generelly by help of keywords (Databases, English Journal, High impact journal, Publishing, Writing).
After general reviewing of 300 related articeles, 30 articels were carefully reviewed, evaluated, interpreted and synthesized for resutls.

The articles searching, reviewing, and synthesizing process.

Data analysis: The articles' findings were analyzed thematically. The researchers analyzed articles in hard copies. We categorized the literature ideas into many major points that promote transparency in reporting. The manuscript was reported objectively and the findings were reviewed and edited many times.

Study Setting: This scientific research was performed in the Department of English at Nangarhar University, Jalalabad, Afghanistan and it helped non-native English-speaking researchers, writers, teachers, and trainers.

This study includes real articles that are published in high-impact journals. In addition, the study utilized articles that were published within the era of 2010 to 2023. These articles were evaluated, analyzed, synthesized, and reported. The credit of borrowed ideas given to the original authors and American Psychological Association (APA) research report writing and citation writing rules will be considered. It excluded the articles which are not published in international journals and articles published in predatory journals.

Results

Writing is a salient skill of language and it facilitates the process of spreading theories and hypotheses around the world. Writing skills are crucial in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) especially because "Writing can be regarded as a main skill in EFL since it needs thinking. It is considered not only as a means of communication but as a process of construction of knowledge" (Mehre, 2017, p.158). College students and professors work to write and publish articles in reputed journals. This task remains tough for non-native writers because of limited information about writing skills and the genuine procedure of sending articles to journals that publish articles in the English language. Research paper writing is problematic for non-native writers due to a shortage of time for practice and less motivation (Mulyatiningsih & Sugiyono, 2020). English language is the language of reputed journals around the globe and they accept articles that are written effectively in English.

The following ideas answer the first research question which is exploring strategies for writing scientific papers for high-profile journals. Inmoratus (2017) defined writing as one of the four major skills that require affective, cognitive, and psychomotor domains of learning. Good writers always work to develop their linguistics skills and they analyze the context before writing any text. Motivation and a positive attitude toward writing enhance students' researchers' creativity in the field of writing (Mehr, 2017). By the same token, Paul, Khatri, and Kaur Duggal (2023) stated that the researcher has to review and include ideas from good sources. They should not include ideas from books and dissertations. The review article must explore new ideas and it deals with the novel title. Furthermore, appropriate usage of technology makes the process of conducting and reporting research papers enjoyable for learners. Clear guidelines and motivation are the two main factors that help students develop their writing skills (Mulyatiningsih & Sugiyono, 2020).

Rustipa, Mulatsih, and Pukan (2023) stated that research paper is a specific genre of writing. There are different genres for writing which have various purposes and they are written for various audiences. Nagao (2022) illustrated four types of writing such as descriptive, argumentative, and persuasive exploratory which are used in scientific paper writing. Scientific articles are divided into some sections and each section of the article is written for different purposes. In the literature review section of the article, the writer used argumentative and critical writing. The method section must be written in a descriptive pattern. Additionally, descriptive and analytical genres are used in the results section of the article. The discussion and conclusion portions must have a persuasive pattern of writing (Nagao, 2022). These diverse and specific requirements can present more obstacles for international writers.

A research paper is problematic for writers due to a shortage of time for practice and less motivation (Mulyatiningsih & Sugiyono, 2020). The IMRD principle

(Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion) assists novice researchers in staying on track (Simon et al., 2020). According to Simon et al. (2020, the FINER principle (Feasible, Interesting, Novel, Eth, and Relevant) facilitates the process of structuring research questions. International writers should allocate enough time for writing and the publication process because publishing standard articles is time-consuming.

These paragraphs answer the second question of the current study. According to Paul et al. (2023), the ideas should be reported clearly and coherently and the writers must analyze, evaluate, and synthesize opinions because considering the steps helps the researcher to publish an article in a high-ranking journal. Publishing article in English which is the predominant language of publication assist researchers to find more readers and become famous around the world. Word choice is the main factor that enhances the formality of the article and non-native Iranian researchers wrote an article in more formal language (Baleghizadeh & Asadi, 2022).

Simon, Osei-Ampofo, Wachira, and Kwan (2020), publishing an article requires hard work and consistency and it is important to consider the writing and publication processes. Furthermore, Mulyatiningsih and Sugiyono (2020) identified that students and teachers do not enjoy research paper writing because they are unaware of the value of research papers in the field. Kurt (2018) found that providing sufficient research methodology and journal selection training for researchers who work in the developing world and developed countries can facilitate research methodology-related training for researchers who live in Asian and African countries. Publishing in a standard journal helps writers to become removed in academic society. Locating articles in Google Scholar does not mean that they are standard (Kurt, 2018). On the other hand, the article may be rejected by some journals but it does not mean your article is not well-written consider the feedback and send it to another relevant journal (Simon et al., 2020).

Table #1: Summary of Findings

Research Questions	Authors and Date	Findings
According to the relevant literature and opinions of experts, what are the procedures for writing and publishing scientific articles in international journals?	Rustipa, Mulatsih, and Pukan (2023)	The article is a specific genre of writing that requires knowledge of linguistics and it is a systemic process of sharing ideas.
	Nagao (2022)	There are four different types of writing that are used mainly in article writing such as descriptive, argumentative, and persuasive exploratory.
	Simon et al. (2020).	The IMRD principle (Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion) assists novice researchers to be on track
What are the criteria for writing social sciences-related article for standard journals?	Sharma and Ogle (2022).	Reviewing the targeted journal guidelines and criteria makes the procedure of publication enjoyable. It is better to review a few articles from the journal that you targeted for your article.
	Kurt (2018)	They should be aware of the importance of publishing in high-profile journal because predatory journal advertisement is very strong and they can misguide novice writers easily.
	Baleghizadeh and Asadi (2022)	Word choice is the main factor that enhances the formality of the article and non-native Iranian researchers wrote articles in more formal language

(Designed by author,2023)

Discussion

In this academic paper, there are useful explorations regarding writing an accurate academic text, integrating technology, and publishing articles in high-ranking journals that help non-native writers write standard articles and publish them in the best journal within a few months. Teachers and undergraduate and graduate students can

begin to prepare their work for publication by selecting a concise and impactful title. According to Mulyatiningsih and Sugiyono (2020), lecturers can make research paper writing easy by provoking students' ideas regarding the selection of a title for the article. By the same token, Simon et al. (2020) reported that concise and attractive title selection is salient for writing and accepting an article in a reputed journal. Therefore, the students should choose a title that conveys the main concept of the entire article and it is one of the important sections of the scientific article. Readers judge the quality of the paper from the title and abstract. The title should include keywords and avoid words such as investigating, exploring, and explaining if possible. Besides, the abstract deals with research problems, purpose, method, findings, and discussion. The abstract disclosed these sections of articles in 200 words. The well-structured paper abstract is concise but useful and full of essential information.

After choosing a precise title, students and novice researchers start article reviewing to justify the problem which motivates them to conduct research for solving the problem. Scientific papers followed specific structures and writing styles. Hence, practical knowledge of styles such as the American Psychological Association (APA) is mandatory for writers. Every writing style has its own rules for composing various parts of articles which oblige students to review its guidelines. Clear guidelines and motivation are the two main factors that help students develop their writing skills (Mulyatiningsih & Sugiyono,2020). Similarly, The IMRD principle (Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion) assists novice researchers in staying on track (Simon et al.,2020). The stated sections start with an introductory paragraph, a body paragraph, and a concluding paragraph. In addition, the root of research questions is having a clear problem and purpose for solving the problem. According to Simon et al. (2020), the FINER principle (Feasible, Interesting, Novel, Ethical, and Relevant) facilitates the process of structuring research questions. Using standard writing guidelines is the best strategy for developing pragmatic writing skills. Every discipline has specific writing guidelines and it is the responsibility of the writer to review them during the process of writing scientific articles.

Additionally, we are living in the era of technology and it brings huge changes in the process of learning and teaching. Technology assists non-native writers in checking grammatical mistakes in a short period; moreover, it accelerates the process of identifying and rectifying grammatical and content mistakes. Appropriate usage of technology makes the process of conducting and reporting research papers enjoyable for learners (Mulyatiningsih & Sugiyono,2020). For instance, Google Scholar helps students to find standard articles for free and they can easily find the required article in a specific time. Students have to use technological tools which help them to avoid committing plagiarism.

Writing a standard article is not the ending of a journey; students and researchers must find a good way to publish the article. It is a good idea to review the articles from the journal where you are keen to publish your article because it helps non-native writers recognize the structure and required components of the journal. Simon, Osei-Ampofo, Wachira, and Kwan (2020) stated that article publication provides chances for readers to get merit from the author's ideas and it helps researchers to enhance their research skills. Baron (2012) revealed that publications in highly indexed English language journals are important for the reputation of authors and their colleagues. Developing societies inspired students to conduct research and share the outcome with students. Furthermore, the instructors in advanced societies applied inquiry-based and project-based approaches in their teaching. On the other hand, the article may be rejected by some journals but it does not mean the EFL writer's article is not well-written. Consider the feedback and send it to another relevant journal (Simon et al., 2020). Rejection of articles is a common fact in the field of education. Nonnative writers should tolerate it because the editorial constructive feedback makes us aware of our unseen mistakes.

In a nutshell, Mulyatiningsih and Sugiyono (2020) stated that non-native writers and students struggle with article writing but it is important for them. Writing a research article is difficult for novice researchers; however, they enjoy the outcome when it is published in a high-ranking journal. Kurt (2018) found that developing countries' researchers claimed that Western journals reject their papers because of English which is not their standard. Conducting research methodology-related workshops assists a novice in writing standard articles. Researchers in developing countries should have access to all the facilities that Western countries provide for their researchers.

Conclusion

Reviewing scientific papers and developing reading skills are salient points for writing articles. Researchers always motivate themselves and their students to analyze standard articles and follow the rules and regulations that are utilized by experienced researchers. According to Simon et al. (2020, publication articles require hard work and consistency and it is important to consider the writing and publication processes. Researchers suggest that all readers apply the stated points because these points help native and

non-native English speakers. Researcher suggest and motivate researchers and writer who live in non-native English-speaking countries to conduct further research in the area because the eradicate the huge problem of writing and publishing articles in developed country journals. The researchers should conduct a quantitative study and include ideas of non-native readers who read articles and writers who write articles for journals. While conducting this research, we faced a shortage of updated articles in the area because a limited number of articles discussed the issues. Non-native writers did not concentrate on the issues of publishing articles in reputed journals and they did not explore the advantages and disadvantages of publishing predatory journals.

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Authors Contributions: Yaseeni offered an extensive analysis of the literature, combining previous studies on the subject, laying a strong basis, and gathering and evaluating evidence to back up the manuscript's central claim. Rahimi edited and critically evaluated the work in addition to helping to organize and structure it. Each author approved the publication of the final manuscript after reading it.

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Bio-Data

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